Day/Night MODIS Cloud Analyses

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Topics:

- Correlation of two independent products (cloud temperature & phase)
- Investigation of spatial resolution effects
- Initial comparisons of MODIS phase results with ARM CART site data



Algorithms

Cloud thermodynamic phase:

Based on IR trispectral method: 8.5, 11, 12 um bands

Results are derived for 5x5 pixel averages of 1-km data

Cloud height/temperature

Based on CO₂ slicing technique
Uses pairs of bands in 15-µm CO₂ band

Cloud temperature determined based on GDAS gridded product



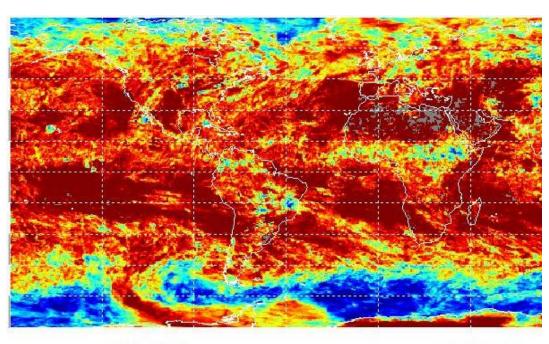
Global cloud phase retrieval

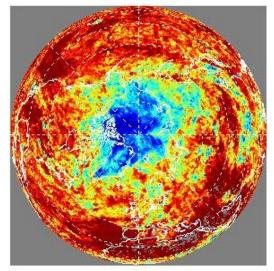
How much of the time is the cloud thermodynamic phase retrieval certain of either ice or water with an IR-only approach?

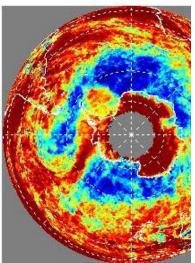


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ts from 4 days time-only



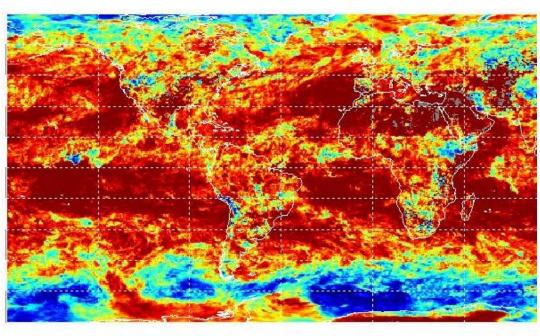


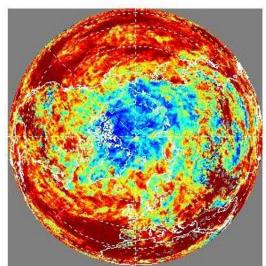


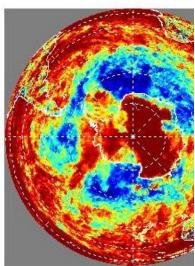


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Global cloud phase - cloud temperature correlations

Three temperature regimes:

 T_c < 243 K 243 K < T_c < 273 K T_c > 273 K

Four phase classifications:

Ice

Water

Mixed

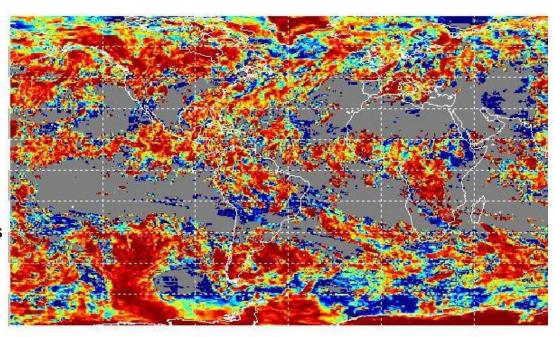
Uncertain

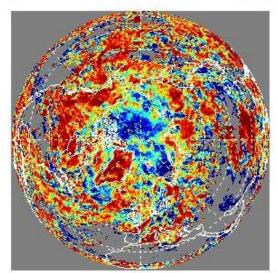
Separation of Day/Night

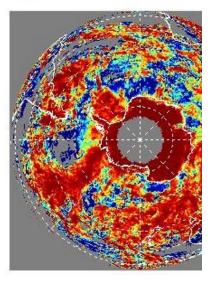


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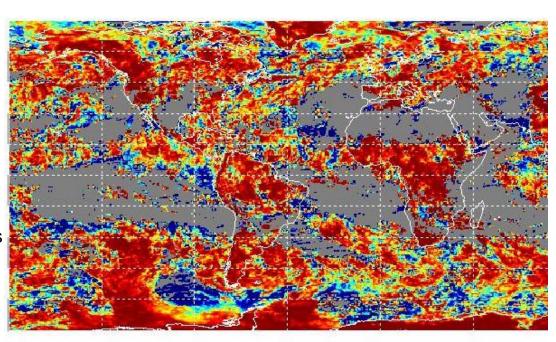


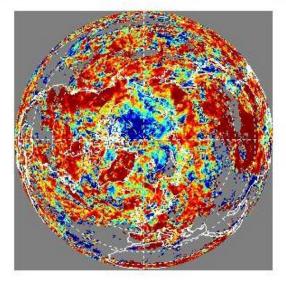


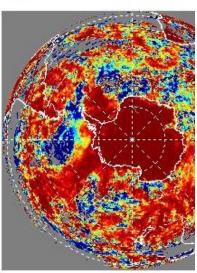


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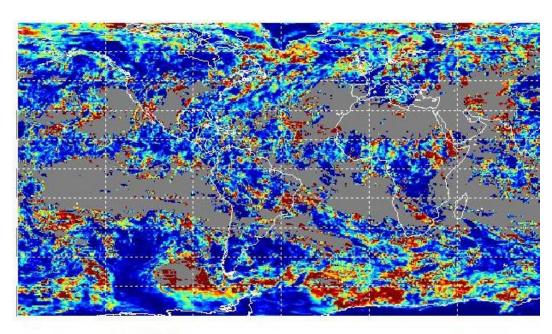


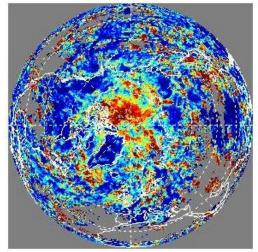


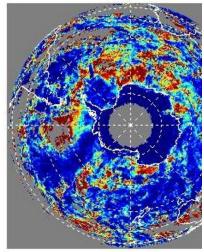


lation of nase with < T_c < 273K

ts from 4 days time-only



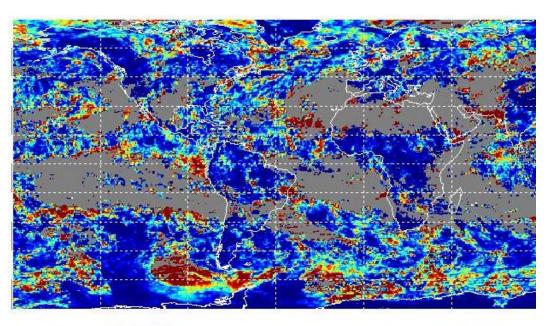


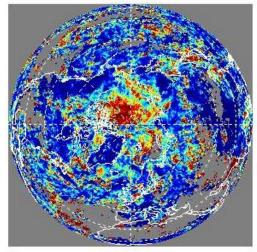


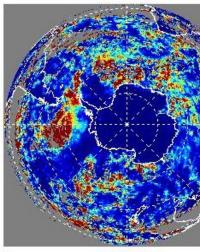


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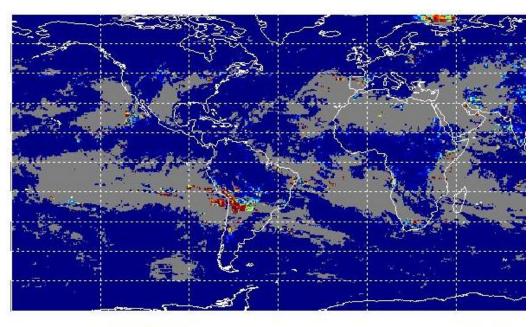


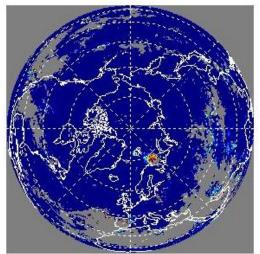


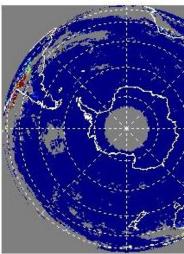


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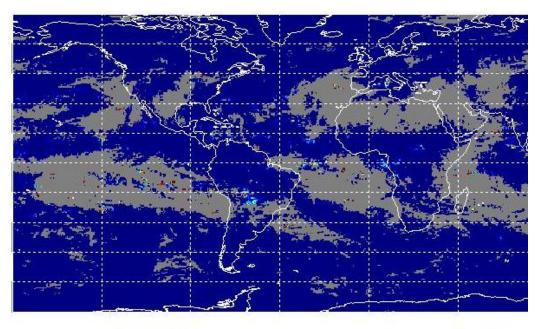


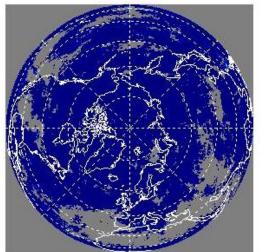


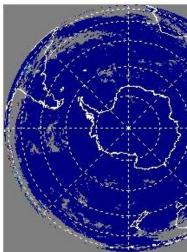


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Global cloud phase - cloud temperature correlations

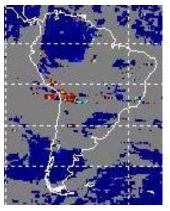
Take a closer look at specific regions for the two correlations that provide the most heartburn:

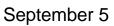
Ice phase clouds with $T_c > 273 \text{ K}$: South America

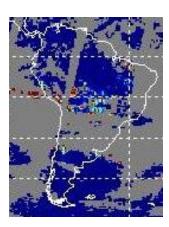
Water phase clouds with T_c < 273 K : Africa



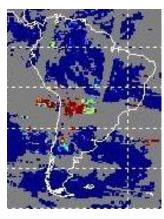
Correlation of ice phase with $T_c > 273K$ Daytime data



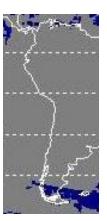




September 6



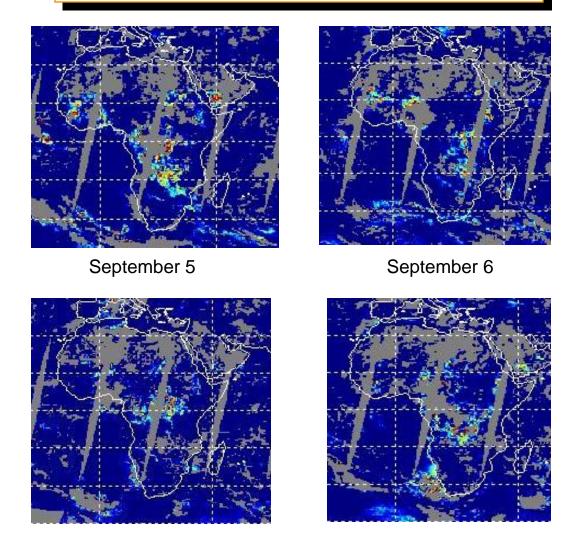
September 7



September 8



Correlation of water phase with $T_{\rm c}$ < 243K Daytime data





September 7

September 8

Summary of Cloud Thermodynamic Phase - Cloud Temperature Correlation Results

The IR methods are applied independently of each other:

- over all surfaces, including land, water, snow
- over all viewing angles for full swath data

Results in general are consistent between day and night

Need further investigation in central S. America, S. Africa, high-latitude storm tracks, mountainous terrain

High priority: improving our understanding of mixed-phase clouds Should we modify our cloud phase discrimination based on cloud temperature?



Mixed Phase Clouds

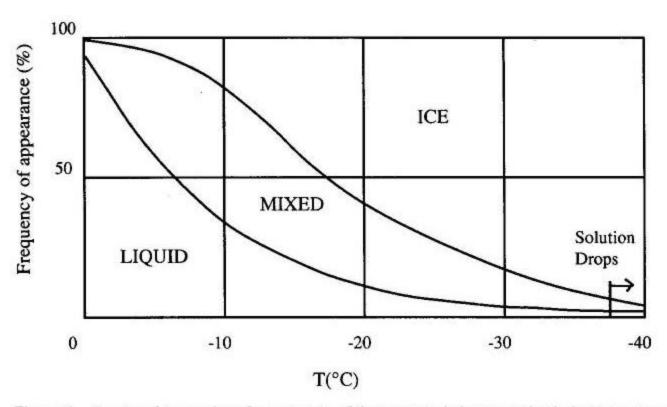
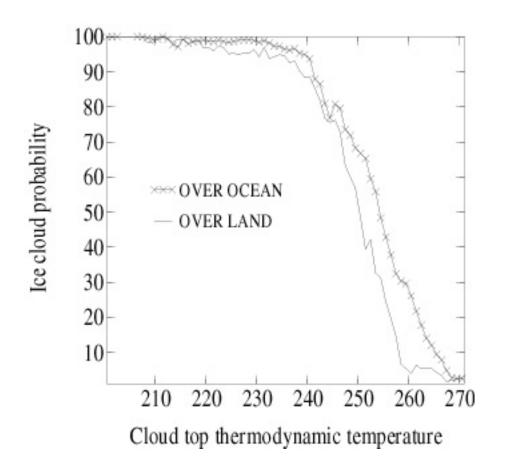


Figure 1 Average frequencies of appearance of the supercooled water, mixed-phase (water and ice), and all ice as a function of temperature in layer clouds over the European territory of the USSR. (After Borovikov et al., 1963.)



Comparison of POLDER (ADEOS-1) to ATSR-2 (ERS-2) on June 12, 1997



V. Giraud et al., Cloud top temperature and IR split window signature in relation with thermodynamic phase, submitted to G.R.L.

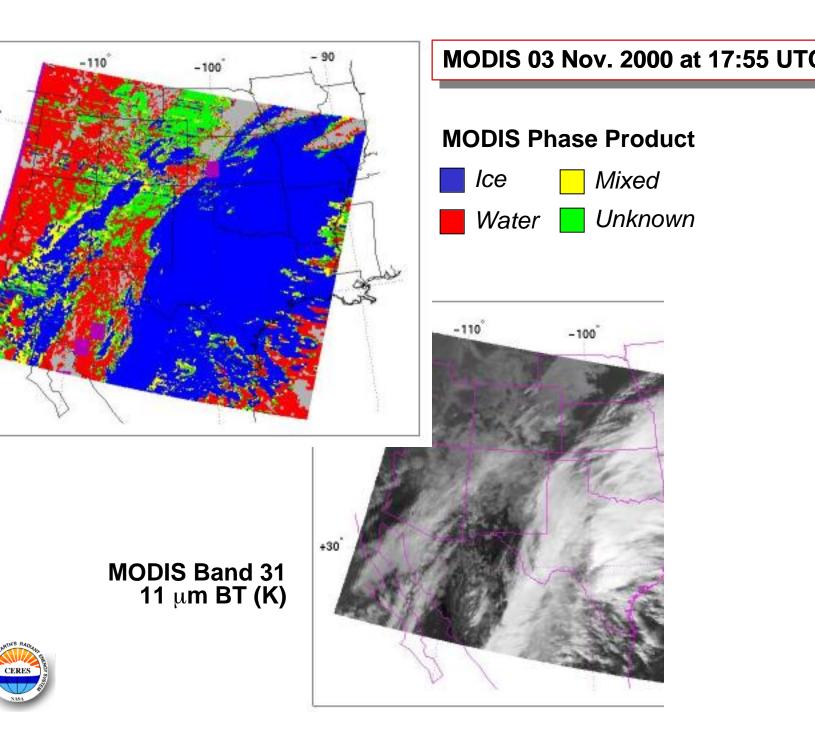


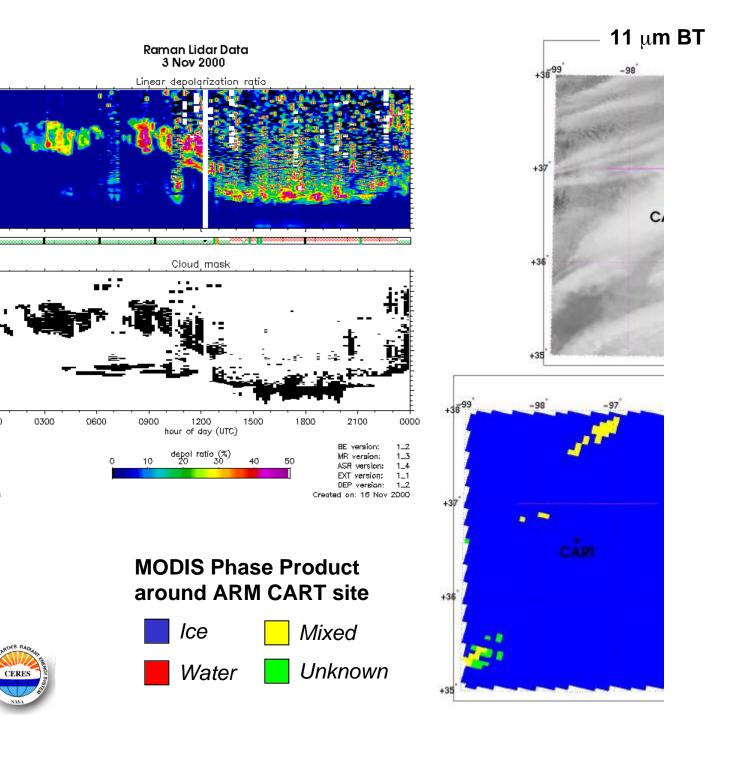
Comparison with ARM SGP Data

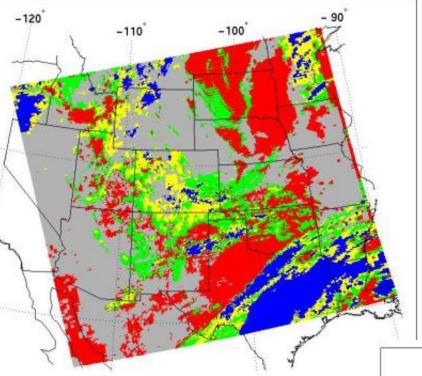
Comparison with UW HSRL, FARS, and CART sites is beginning

Have 2 examples to show of cloud phase comparisons with ARM CART SGP data for multilayered cloud conditions









MODIS 18 Nov. 2000 at 05:10 UTO

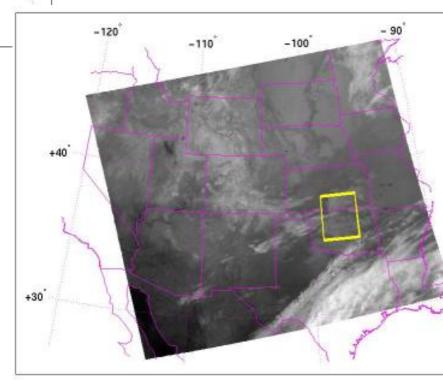
MODIS Phase Product

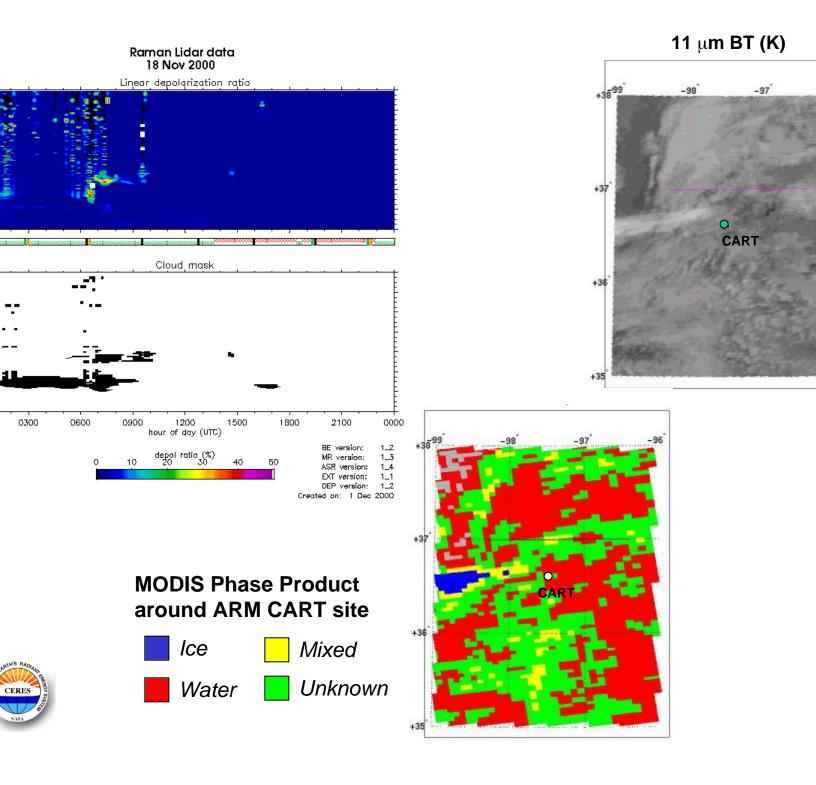
Ice Mixed

Water Unknown

MODIS Band 31 11 μ m BT (K)







Spatial Resolution Effects

CERES has indicated interest in having a 1-km cloud phase retrieval code

The MODIS IR trispectral method operates on a 5x5 array of pixels and includes both spatial and spectral tests

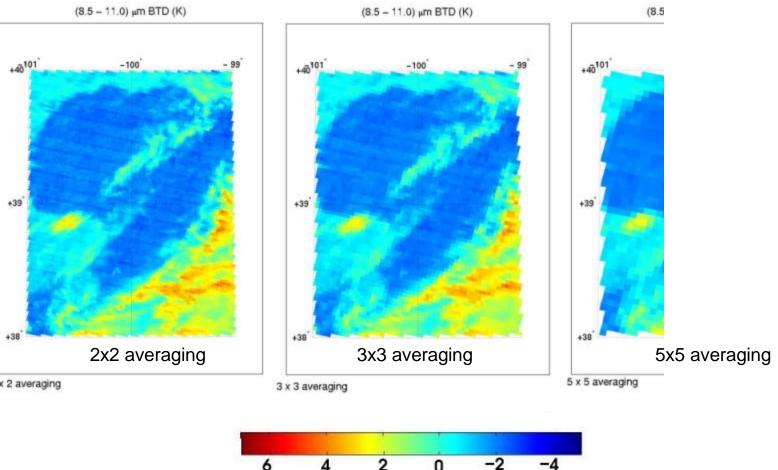
Tests were performed to evaluate a "simpler" version of the cloud phase algorithm, based solely on the 8.5 & 11-µm bands

Problem: run into instrument detector issues that seem to be apparent with BTDs



MOD021KM.A +40101 MODIS Level1B, 3 Nov. 2000, 1755 UTC 300 +39 290 280 (8.5 – 11.0) μm BTD (K) 250 € -100° +40101 240 227 220 +39

Spatial Resolution Effects - BTD[8.5-11 μ m]







And in conclusion...

Work on separating out overlapping clouds (thin cirrus overlap) from single-layered, mixed-phase clouds

Try to understand some of these regional anomalies that we're seeing

UW Direct Broadcast (DB) system is now operational

Now adapting our MODIS cloud products for DB data

Our intent is to compare MODIS DB cloud products with UW HSRL, Utah FARS, and ARM SGP sites in a routine fashion

